

Oedalea ringdahli Chvála (Diptera: Hybotidae) in Britain.—On 28.v.1989 at Cwm Sere, a north-facing valley at 320 m above sea level on the northern slope of the Brecon Beacons, Brecknockshire (grid ref. SO 0323) I swept a very dark-legged female *Oedalea* sp. from under *Alnus/Betula/Quercus* woodland. The specimen was tentatively determined as *O. ringdahli* using Chvála (1983) but as the female is undescribed it was not until I collected examples of both sexes from the same locality on 17.vi.1990 that I was able to confirm the determination by examination of the male genitalia.

The female differs from the male primarily in that the upper facets of the eye are not enlarged, the third antennal segment is slightly broader basally and the halteres are pale. The legs are slightly paler (considerably so in the 1989 specimen which is rather teneral) and the whitish dorsal hairs on the posterior femora are much shorter. The "ovipositor" is shining black but paler and lightly dusted dorsally.

O. ringdhali is generally considered as a Scandinavian species but recent records from Scotland (McLean, 1991; MacGowan, 1991) and confirmation that the dark-legged specimen from Cusop Dingle, Herefordshire referred to *O. holmgreni* Zett. by Collin (1961) is in fact *O. ringdahli* (McLean, 1991) indicate that the distribution extends to include the north and west of Britain. The empidoid fauna of the Brecon Beacons and the Black Mountains (Cusop Dingle is a woodland valley on the northern periphery of the Black Mountains, 25 km north east of Cwm Sere) is rich in species having a northern and western distribution in Britain. These include *Chelifera pectinicauda* Collin, *Hilara media* Collin, *H. canescens* Zett. and *H. germanica* Engel which outside Scandinavia is previously known only from Scotland. Other species of *Oedalea* have been reared from rotting wood and it is probable that *O. ringdahli* will be found in association with fallen timber in other upland woodlands in the north and west of Britain.—Adrian R. Plant, 41B Llanfair Road, Pontcanna, Cardiff CF1 9QA.

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